



SPIRIT-LED NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

Aloha my Brothers and Sisters,

Priests are sometimes asked, "Why is it wrong to leave mass right after one receives Holy Communion?" Here is the answer to why it is wrong.

It is wrong to leave Mass right after Communion in the Catholic faith because it dishonors Christ's Real Presence, disrespects the sacredness of the entire Mass, and fails to embrace the full grace and spiritual benefit of the Eucharist. The final parts of the Mass include a blessing and a dismissal to evangelize. Staying through the end is a necessary spiritual and communal act of worship and mission.

Disrespect to Christ and the Eucharist

- **Real Presence:** Leaving after Communion can show a lack of belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, which is a core tenet of the Catholic faith.
- **Sacred Mystery:** The Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus, and departing early can make it seem like a mere personal experience rather than the profound sacred mystery it is.

Missed Spiritual and Communal Benefits

- **Missed Grace and Blessing:** The final blessing and dismissal are integral parts of the Mass and offer spiritual good and a commissioning to spread the Gospel.
- **Communal Unity:** Remaining until the end demonstrates a spirit of unity with the Church and fellow Catholics, emphasizing that the Mass is a communal act of worship, not just a private one.
- **Evangelization:** The Mass is meant to empower and send us to the world to evangelize; the final blessing is a commission to do this work.

Disrespect to the Liturgy and Others

- **Trivializing the Mass:** Leaving early can be seen as trivializing the entire experience of the Mass, which is the highest form of worship.
- **Rudeness:** It can be considered a lack of reverence and a sign of rudeness to the priest, the ministers, and the entire community.

Biblical Parallel

- **Judas:** Leaving Mass immediately after Communion is often compared to Judas leaving the Last Supper, a departure that led to his betrayal of Jesus.

Gratefully yours in the heart of Jesus Christ,

Fr. Anthony Rapozo

ST. JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
 95-370 Kuahelani Ave. Mililani, Hawaii 96789 | (808) 623-3332
www.stjohnmililani.org

MISSION / VISION STATEMENT: WE ARE A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY—called to develop a deeper relationship with Christ. Such a relationship is fostered through active participation in: *Word, Sacrament, Renewal Programs, Ministry/Service* and other ***Spirit-led*** activities. We dedicate our time, talent, and treasure to install, in our parish community the basic building blocks of Christian living, ***to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to all through our words, deeds, and lives.***

PASTOR Fr. Anthony Rapozo
PAROCHIAL VICAR Fr. Cipriano “Jojo” Alnas
DEACONS Dcn. Romeo Ganibe
 Dcn. Mike Browning

*FULL Parish Clergy & Staff Directory
 available on our website.*

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 8AM Monday – Saturday
Sunday: 5PM (Anticipated Mass), 7AM,
 9AM, 11AM & 6PM

ADORATION TIMES:

Monday – Saturday 7AM – 8AM
 Friday after 8 AM Mass - 9:30 AM
 Wednesday 7 PM - 8 PM (Encounter Night)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30PM

PARISH RECTORY HOURS

Monday Closed
Tuesday - Friday 9AM – 1PM,
 2PM - 5PM
 Closed 1PM – 2PM
 for lunch
Closed *Saturday, Sunday,
 Holy Days & Holidays*

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE	NOV 29/30
Sunday Collection	\$ 11,125.67
Online Donation (WeShare)	\$ 722.00
Online Donation (Pushpay)	\$ 5,414.00
Building, Equipment & Maintenance (BEM)	\$ 227.00
OCC Capital Campaign (Non-Assessed)	\$ 300.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 70.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 1,100.75
Candles	\$ 855.00
Preschool	\$ 75.00
Catholic Communication Campaign for Human Development	\$ 145.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 1,724.00
Retirement Fund for the Religious	\$ 20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 1,641.00
Statue	\$ 20.00
Catholic Charities Hawaii	\$ 53.50

WEEKEND TOTAL **\$23,492.92**

Please call the office for all other inquiries:
 Anointing, Baptisms, Blessings, Funeral,
 Homebound Communion & Marriage.

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

BY CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANTS

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans encourages us to focus our Advent preparations in this way: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." And how does Christ welcome us? With unconditional love.

This is the essence of Christian hospitality, a vital aspect of stewardship living. Fully embraced, it has the power to transform our lives and the lives of those who experience it through us.

The practice of Christian hospitality is also a way for us stewards to answer the call of John the Baptist, in our Gospel passage from Matthew. His words apply just as much to us today as they did to the people awaiting the Savior's arrival. John says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" And he recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." There is a definite connection between repentance and effective hospitality.

So how can we make repentance a regular part of our everyday lives? We can make an "examination of conscience" a daily part of our prayers, thanking God for the times we said "yes" to Him, and asking forgiveness for the times we chose our own will. We can (and should!) go to Confession this Advent. We can reach out to a family member or friend where there is distance or discord and make peace.

As we "straighten the paths" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, and far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Responsorial Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

~ POPE BENEDICT XVI

FATHER ANTHONY'S STEWARDSHIP CORNER



Aloha!

Our parish vision of stewardship is one that sees Stewardship as a Way of Life, that begins with Love, It is not about collecting money though; it is about sharing the gifts that God has given each of us. The financial needs of the parish have very little to do with our individual practice of living out a Stewardship Way of Life.

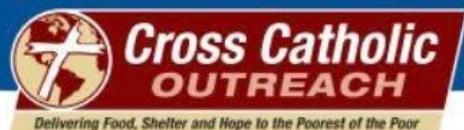
NUMBER 10 – TITHING

Tithing is a biblical concept that specifies that a family unit gives a set percentage of its income to God. Most of the references to tithing are in the Old Testament.

A number of modern faith communities embrace tithing. Usually giving a set percentage of income is encouraged. The set percentage of giving is normally 10% of income.

You don't hear a lot about tithing in the Catholic Church. The concept of sacrificial giving is more in tune with Catholicism. It has more of a feel of a spiritual act of a Disciple and less of a feel of a transaction.

Some of our parishioners do tithe. Their percent of giving is based more on gratitude and less on a set formula. It is thought out in advance, so it is perfectly consistent with sacrificial giving.



Bright Bernardo

Milton is a construction worker earning just \$15 per day, and he dreams of his toddler son, Bernardo, becoming an architect. The little boy is learning to count to 100 and likes to build little houses from corncob scraps.

Sadly, the family's living conditions in Laguna Seca, Guatemala, threaten to hold Bernardo back. Milton built their one-room home from scrap metal. The roof doesn't leak, but water seeps through the dirt floor every time it storms. Snakes and vermin also make their way inside.

Andrea, Bernardo's mother, worries about what might happen if a snake bites him while they're sleeping. A safe, new home would offer the protection this young family desperately deserves. **Scan the QR code or visit CrossCatholic.org/Advent to give.**



Bernardo plays on a berm meant to keep rainwater from entering his family's makeshift house.

GIVE TODAY: CrossCatholic.org/Advent



Please annotate St. John Apostle & Evangelist Catholic Church on your envelope for accountability purposes. Mahalo!! Envelopes are located at the back of the church.

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

FOR CATHOLICS

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (Canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

FOR OUR FELLOW CHRISTIANS

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us *"that we may all be one"* (Jn 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship. Members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the Diocesan Bishop and the provisions of Canon Law (Canon 844 §4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of Communion by Christians of these Churches (Canon 844 §3).

FOR THOSE NOT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

FOR NON-CHRISTIANS

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith with Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and unity of the human family.



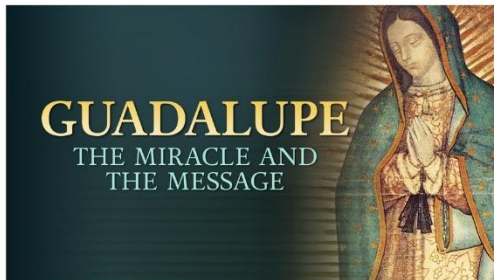
This Week on Formed

Week of December 07, 2025



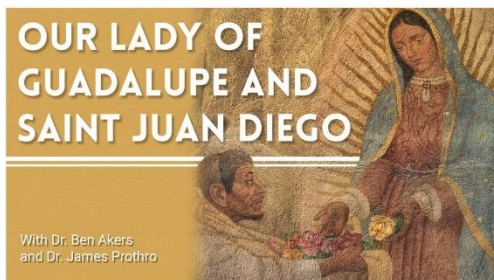
What Is the Immaculate Conception?

Join Drs Tim Gray and John Sehorn as they examine Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. This dogma of the Catholic faith, promulgated in 1854 by Pope Pius IX, speaks of Mary's conception and what it means to the Church.



Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message

Enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezel that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego, an encounter that has influenced the conversion of millions of people.



Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego | Catholic Saints

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. James Prothro to discuss Mary's apparition to Saint Juan Diego on Tepeyac hill under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US FOR OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PRAYER GROUP is sponsoring a Novena in the OCC on

Sun Dec 7 – 5 pm	Mon Dec 8 – 5pm	Tues Dec 9 – 5pm
Wed Dec 10 – 5pm	Thurs Dec 11 – 5pm	
For more information, contact: Zoila (808) 799-7856 zoilahorta@gmail.com Patricia (808) 256-0830	FRIDAY DEC 12 – 5:00 PM – MAÑANITAS 6:00 PM – MASS	

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is to be celebrated on Monday, December 8, 2025, as a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION** in the Diocese of Honolulu. The Mass times are at 8am and 6:30 pm Mass.

SUPPORT A LIFETIME OF SERVICE! Women and men religious have spent their lives servicing others in prayer, ministry, education, and care for those in need – usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. **NEXT WEEKEND** (12/13-12/14), please support them by giving to the RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously. Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please drop your donation during offertory or you may also donate online through our parish “Give Online.”

LITTLE BETHLEHEM CHRISTIANS is a group that represents Christian Families who live in the Holy Land of Bethlehem that make their living as wood carvers. The Alsahouri Family will display a collection of hand-carved olive wood religious items for sale on December 13th & 14th after all Masses. All profits will support Christianity in the land of Christ.

Remember a loved one by making a flower offering this Christmas. Envelopes are available at the back of the church, or you may also make a donation online by visiting our parish website, online giving. Mahalo!

SAVE THE DATE!! Friday, Dec 19, 6:30pm in the OCC. Please join the parish to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season at our 4th “Journey to the Inn” event. It will be a program of Prayer, Meditation, Singing, and Pageantry as we remember the lives of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph during the time of our Savior’s Birth. Potluck and fellowship to follow. No registration is required, please bring your family and friends and a dish to share.

ADULT CONFIRMATION: Are you an adult parishioner who missed receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation? Preparation of Confirmation for parishioners who want to receive this Sacrament will be offered in January 2026. **First class:** Tuesday, Jan 20 | 6:30pm | OCC Conference Room. We are now accepting registration for these classes. To register, visit our website, stjohnmililani.org. **Registration will close on Tuesday, January 6, 2026.** For more information, please contact Fr Anthony, sjaeinfo@rcchawaii.org or (808) 623-3332. Mahalo!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 8, 2025

8 AM Suzanna Foster (RIP)
Brandon Browning (Birthday Blessing)
6:30 PM M/M Wayne & Stephanie Rapozo (RIP)

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

8 AM Dolly Mandap (Birthday Memorial)
Art Apilado (RIP)

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

8 AM Kapua Browning (Birthday Blessing)
Amelia Santos (1st year Death Anniversary)
Gilbert Canales (RIP)

Thursday, December 11, 2025

8 AM James & Mildred Mizoguchi (RIP)
Eric Umetsu (RIP)
Ginny Rapozo (RIP)

Friday, December 12, 2025

8 AM David Marin Torres (RIP)
Elaine Gibson & Family (Blessings/Thanksgiving)
Victor- Bertrand Lujan (RIP)
Chanee Shockley, Gail Estanque & Lani Souza
(Birthday Blessings)

Saturday, December 13, 2025

8 AM Pamela Duke (Birthday Blessing)
Harley Kinglsey (RIP)
Ginny Rapozo (RIP)
5 PM Linda Ward (Healing)

Sunday, December 14, 2025

7 AM Patrick M. Mayock (Birthday Memorial)
9 AM *For the People*
11 AM Cipriano Dulay (RIP)
6 PM Suzanna Foster (RIP)

HEALING / BLESSINGS

Mairenui Tauotaha-Amo, Helen Guerrero, Thomas Ramos, John Bates, Cindy Abernathy, Barbara Ursal, Hildegard Borowitz, Roland Crisostomo, Margie Romasanta, Felicia Routon, Adam & Rosie Olivares, Dolly Lapinad, Violet Mayock, Jim Murphy, Priscilla Sy, Maria & Sam Aguirre Sr., Dolores Rocchia, Oscar Gatdula, Maluhia Yoho, Marigil Sabado, Gus Benitez & those mentioned in the Parish Book of Prayers.

DECEASED

Stephanie Rapozo, Edna Corniel, Clarita Martinez, Antonio J. Saguibo Sr., Bunny Estera, Beth Simon, Ben Topinio, John L. Williams, Geraldo "Gerry" Uytingco, Dolores Villanueva, Wayne Rapozo, Alice Secor, Frank Thompson, Rose Garcia, Ricardo Bautista Sr., Sheena Marie Ciarlante-Villanueva & Jose L. Villanueva.

HAWAII
CATHOLIC CEMETERIES



ST JOHN CREMATION NICHES is available, and space is limited. For more information about reserving your niche please contact Duane Pavao, Director of Cemeteries (808) 783-6778 or dpavao@cfsmission.org or Elly Mae Kalilikane, Family Service Advisor (808) 727-1024 or mkalilikane@cfsmission.org